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Docket No.: 3918-0154P
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Artemio MAZZAROLO

Application No.: 10/659,426

Confirmation No.: 004087

Filed: September 11, 2003

Art Unit: 3654

For: WRAPPING APPARATUS

Examiner: W. Arauz Rivera

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 based on the following prior foreign application filed in the following foreign country on the date indicated:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Date</u>
Canada	2,402,670	September 11, 2002

In support of this claim, a certified copy of the said original foreign application is filed herewith.

Dated: November 8, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By *[Signature]*
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10/659,426 Filed 9/11/03
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703-205-8000
3918-154P

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Certification

La présente atteste que les documents
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Certification

This is to certify that the documents
attached hereto and identified below are
true copies of the documents on file in
the Patent Office.

Specification and Drawing, as originally filed, with Application for Patent Serial No:
2,402,670, on September 11, 2002, by ARTEMIO MAZZAROLO, for "Wrapping
Machine".

CERTIFIED COPY OF
PRIORITY DOCUMENT

Deacy Pugh
Agent certificateur/Certifying Officer

October 26, 2005

Date

Canada

(CIPO 68)
31-03-04

OPIC  CIPO

This invention relates to wrapping machines and more particularly to a machine for stretch-wrapping an article with flexible material from a roll of such material. The machine supports the roll at a height which may be adjusted to that most convenient for wrapping and is movable so that the roll may be moved around the article as it is being wrapped.

It is common for newly manufactured articles to be wrapped with polyethylene or other polymeric material to protect its outer surface from scratches, from contact with corrosive fluids and the like. Articles which are irregular in shape or are heavy are usually difficult to wrap. Heavy machinery for example is commonly attached to a skid after it is manufactured and both the machinery and the skid are wrapped before being shipped from the factory where it was manufactured. In most cases, such machinery is wrapped by an operator who holds a sheet of wrapping material and walks around the machinery again and again while raising and lowering the sheet and while maintaining the material under tension until the machine is completely enveloped. Wrapping by this means is physically taxing because the sheet of wrapping material is heavy and because the sheet must be constantly pulled to keep it under tension.

I have invented a machine which is an improvement over the conventional way in which an article is wrapped. The machine supports a roll of wrapping material at a height that can be adjusted. Furthermore, the machine is mounted on wheels, castors and the like so that it can be moved around the article or it can be located where it is will best facilitate the wrapping operation. An operator does not have to carry the roll by hand, to raise and lower it by hand or to pull it to keep the wrapping material under tension. As a result the operator avoids back strain, fatigue and injuries resulting from fatigue when he is using the machine.

Briefly the wrapping machine of my invention comprises: a base mounted for rolling; a post extending upwardly from the base; a winch mounted to the post; and supporting means for a roll of wrapping material. The supporting means is operatively connected to the winch and is raised and lowered thereby.

The wrapping machine of the invention is described with reference to the accompanying photograph and drawing of the machine. In the photograph, the wrapping machine is shown in conjunction with a roll of flexible wrapping material. In the drawing, an elevation of supporting means for the roll of wrapping material is illustrated.

Like reference characters refer to like parts throughout the description of the photograph and drawing.

With reference to the photograph, the wrapping machine includes a base 10, a post 12 which is connected to the base and extends upwardly therefrom and a winch 14 mounted to the top of the post. A roll 16 of flexible wrapping material extends around and surrounds the post.

The base is composed of a pair of crossed bars 18, 20 one of which is elongated and to which a handle 22 is attached. A castor 24 is attached to the two ends of each bar so that the base may be rolled across a floor. Handle 22 facilitates such rolling and also the steering of the base while it is so rolling.

The post is composed to two segments, a lower segment 12a and an upper segment 12b. The upper segment fits into an opening in the lower segment and each segment is provided with a series of openings spaced along their lengths for receipt of a pin 28 for holding the two segments together. The post is thus extendible or telescopic.

The winch is mounted to the top of the upper segment and has a conventional drum 32 around which a cable 34 is wound. The drum is turned by means of a handle 36.

With reference to the drawing, the supporting means for a roll of wrapping material includes a bed 38 and a tube 40 which extends upwardly from the bed. The cable of the winch is attached to the tube.

The tube surrounds post 12 and the tube in turn is surrounded by roll 16 of wrapping material as illustrated in the photograph. The roll is seated on the bed and is raised and lowered by means of the winch.

In operation, the wrapping machine is moved until it close to the object which is to be wrapped. The roll of wrapping material is then raised or lowered until it is adjacent to the article by means of the winch. The material is then unwound from the roll and attached to the object by such means as adhesive tape. The wrapping machine is then moved around the article while the wrapping material unwinds until the article is completely enveloped by the material.

The wrapping machine of the invention is suitable for wrapping a variety of different articles such as ones in boxes and ones which because of their irregular shapes are difficult to wrap by hand. The machine is particularly suitable for wrapping articles on skids.

It will be understood, of course, that modifications can be made to the wrapping machine illustrated and described herein without departing from the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A machine for wrapping an article with flexible material comprising: a base mounted for rolling; a post extending upwardly from said base; a winch mounted to said post; and supporting means for a roll of flexible material, said supporting means being operatively connected to said winch and being raised and lowered thereby.
2. The machine as claimed in claim 1 wherein said supporting means includes a bed and a tube which extends upwardly from said bed, said roll of flexible material being adapted to be seated upon said bed and to surround and to revolve around said tube.
3. The machine as claimed in claim 1 further including a handle connected to said base for facilitating the movement of said base.
4. The machine as claimed in claim 1 wherein said post is extendible such that the level of said winch can be adjusted.
5. The machine as claimed in claim 2 wherein said winch includes a cable which is connected to said tube

